

RESUMING ACTIVITIES

Strong Indications that Railroad Construction Begins Soon

HARRIMAN WANTS WHOLE STATE

Surveying Crews Working in Southern Part of State On Oregon Eastern and On Goose Lake & Southern. High Officials Investigate Field

Movements of many of the railroad men strongly indicate that activity in the construction of lines in this section of the state is to be resumed soon. Last year a crew of surveyors under Carl Rankin worked from Odell, in this county, to the east, making the preliminary survey for the Oregon Eastern. Mr. Rankin and his crew are again in the field, working from Odell across the mountains to Natron. It is believed that actual construction work will be done on this road just as soon as the political situation is more fully developed. The line from Odell to Natron will, according to the Harriman plans, form a part of the road to be built from this city to Natron, and will, when completed, be the main line of the Southern Pacific, running north and south.

Surveying crews are at work on the Goose Lake and Southern line, with headquarters at Alturas. A part of the crew is at work near New Pine Creek, about 14 miles south of Lakeview. The recent visit of Chief Engineer Wm. Hood of the Southern Pacific, and E. E. Calvin, vice president of the S. P. and president of the Goose Lake & Southern, to Northern California and Southern Oregon, it is thought was in connection with the resumption of work on some of the proposed lines. They made a thorough investigation of the California Northeastern, and also of the line of the Goose Lake & Southern near where it leaves the main line of the Southern Pa-

cific. The Articles of Incorporation for this new route provide that Anderson, Cal., shall be the southern terminal and Lakeview the Northern. It is quite evident that Harriman intends to monopolize the Oregon territory, and in order to make his plans successful he must get his roads under way before the field is invaded by the Goulds. Lakeview people feel confident that they will have a railroad within a few years, for if Harriman does not build they feel certain that N. C. O., extending northward from Reno, will be extended into Lake County by the Goulds, who control, if they do not own, the line. This being a presidential year, it is very likely that railroad activity will not be resumed on a very extensive scale until after the nominations have been decided upon.

Nickell Gets Rehearing

Charles Nickell, former publisher of the Southern Oregonian and for many years democratic leader of Southern Oregon, who was convicted by Francis J. Heney three years ago of conspiracy to suborn perjury in the land fraud cases, has received word from his attorney, Martin L. Pipes of Portland, that a rehearing of his case has been granted by the federal court of appeals. Nickell was United States commissioner at Medford and was accused of having accepted perjured affidavits.

Lake County Springs Attract Much Attention

Ana river, at the head of Summer Lake valley in northern Lake county, is at this time attracting considerable attention as an effort is being made to raise the water so as to utilize it in the irrigation of the large sagebrush plain in the north end of this valley. Ana river has been considered one of Southern Oregon's great wonders, and has been thoroughly investigated by the Government Geological Survey, which in one of its bulletins gives the following reports: The northern end of the valley of Summer Lake in Southern Oregon, contains a group of three or four large springs which unite to form Ana River, the principal feeder of the lake from the south. These springs occur in a semi-arid region, where their volume—approximately 100,000 gallons a minute—and their constant flow through wet and dry seasons make them objects of unusual interest, and their source has always been a puzzle to local investigators.

Summer Lake Valley is a depression bordered on the west and north by conspicuous cliffs of basalt and on the east by lower rims of the same material. One large stream, Chewaucan River, rising in the wooded mountains west of the basin, discharges into it through a conspicuous canyon, but the flow of this stream is less than that of the great springs at the head of the valley.

The temperatures of the Ana River waters—20 degrees or more above the mean annual temperature of the region—indicate that the springs rise from depths 1000 feet or more below. As the surface is probably a mere veneer, whose thickness is much less than is the alluvium that forms the valley floor, it is probable that the waters rise from the underlying rocks along one or more of the lines of easy passage afforded by the faults or fracture planes that limit the valley. But even if the springs yield rock waters from depths, the source of these waters still remains unknown. The geologists of the United States Geological Survey, who have been studying the region, rejected at once the idea that

the area east and south of the springs could furnish the waters, partially because of the aridity in these areas, and partly because their investigations had revealed structural conditions that would tend to prevent the circulation of the water westward to the point at which it issues. North and west of the springs, however, is a mountainous region, not well known geologically, but including an area that is well timbered and has relatively high rainfall. In this region rise Sprague and Williamson Rivers, both streams of considerable volume. It is probable that the surface of this mountain region presents areas of porous rocks capable of absorbing the rain water that falls upon it, and these areas are regarded as the most probable source of the waters that issue in such great volume at the springs.

Mrs. Reames Honored

At the election of the officers of the Grand Lodge of the Order of the Eastern Star, which met at Portland last week, Mrs. E. R. Reames, of this city, was elected Worthy Grand Matron. The Portland Telegram, in giving an account of the election printed a picture of the Klamath lady and the following: The worthy matron elect, Mrs. Jennie E. Reames, is a native daughter of Oregon and has long been an active member of the O. E. S. She was a charter member of Adare Chapter, No. 3, organized in Jacksonville, July 20, 1880, and demitted to Alahio Chapter, No. 61, of Klamath Falls, at the time of its organization March 13, 1899, serving as its first worthy matron for three years. She has been a member of the Grand Chapter for the past nine years and is looked upon as being one of its most earnest workers.

Caught in the Act

Shortly before closing time Saturday evening Clarence Getter appeared at the Klamath County Bank and presented to Assistant Cashier Leslie Rogers the check of Henry Straw for \$100. Mr. Rogers paid him the money, but shortly afterward he suspected that the check might be a forgery and he at once telephoned Mr. Straw and found that he was correct in his suspicions. The officers were notified and the arrest was made by City Marshal Low at the Belmont Feed Yard. The \$100 was found in the possession of Getter. The man under arrest worked at Poekagama most of the winter, but had been in the employ of Mr. Straw during the spring. He will be brought before the Grand Jury which was called today by Prosecuting Attorney W. J. Moore.

Court in Session

The summoning of a grand jury was the first matter taken up after the convening of the regular term of the Circuit Court. The following jury was chosen: W. B. Simpson, J. C. Taylor, W. W. Mendenhall, Clay Taylor, A. M. Sutton, Otto Heidrich and A. F. Stankey.

The jury is in session this afternoon and a large number of witnesses are being examined, many of them from Bonanza. The basement of the library building is being used as a room for the jury.

Up to the time of going to press the Grand Jury has returned no true bills but it is understood that several will be returned either tonight or tomorrow.

The docket for this term of court will be a long one and will likely last through more than two weeks. Besides the criminal cases, there are a number of civil actions and divorce cases.

The jury men and all of the witnesses being in the city makes the court a busy place.

RAGAN TURNED LOOSE

Wife Held For Robbing the U. S. Mails at Royston

GRAND JURY RETURNS TRUE BILL

Deputy Postmistress Must Face Trial in the Federal Court For Pilfering the Mails While in Charge of a Klamath County Post Office

It was the aesthetic taste, it seems, and her longings for higher and finer things, that led to the downfall of Mrs. Nellie F. Ragan, former assistant postmistress at Royston, in this county and at one time known as the cowgirl queen of southern Oregon, against whom an indictment containing four counts has been returned by a federal grand jury sustaining the charge of robbing the United States mails which had been placed against her two months ago.

Among other fancy articles that Mrs. Ragan is accused of having taken from the United States mails and converted to her own use are two sofa pillow covers, each of which was addressed to other persons. Then pretty petticoats and fancy hose, cream colored and dainty blue union suits are also mentioned in the indictment as having been among the effects which Mrs. Ragan confiscated from the channels of Uncle Sam's mail service. But in keeping an eye open for delicate articles of an ornamental nature, Mrs. Ragan did not, according to the charge of the government officials, overlook the necessities of life. For the evidence shows that such articles of wear as corsets, corset covers, white vests and many other pieces of dress and goods had been taken by the woman accused.

One of the counts in the indictment is that Mrs. Ragan took charge of a sofa pillow cover belonging to Miss Ada Erb at Bly. This was rather a fancy affair, and particularly attractive to the eye. The cover is made of postal cards. This was taken, it is charged, November 18. Another sofa pillow cover had been sent to Mrs. Hees Ciopton of Bonanza, but had been sidetracked by the assistant postmistress.

Miss Maggie Leonard of Bly, comes in for more things found in possession of Mrs. Ragan than any of the others who lost articles in the mail and who gave testimony before the grand jurors. Miss Leonard claims a petticoat, two union suits, four white vests and the same number of corset covers.

Mrs. J. E. Edsall of Bly, claims a corset which Mrs. Ragan had when the authorities searched her home.

Mrs. Ragan is but 22 years old. She has a baby only a few months of age. She was formerly Miss Nellie Bauer and

as a girl rode the range for her father who was in the cattle business in Lake county.

Bert Ragan, her husband, who was arrested on the belief that he had been implicated in the thefts, is not to be tried, the grand jury reporting that they had failed to find a true bill of information against him.

Royston is a relay stage station near Bly. Mrs. Ragan took charge of the postoffice last fall while the postmistress moved to Bonanza in order to give her children an opportunity to attend school.

Mrs. Ragan will probably be tried before Judge Wolverton in the United States district Court some time during the summer, or possibly not until next fall.

The amount of bail was fixed at \$1,000.

Work was begun on the new Library building last week, and is progressing very nicely. The building will be 35 feet by 40 feet in size, and will make the Library a comfortable home. There is no doubt that when the carpenters get through with it and the ladies of the Library association take charge, it will be made one of the prettiest places in town.—Lake County Examiner.

The annual election in school district No. 1 was held this afternoon. The vote was not large as it was generally understood that the old officers had done such efficient work that they would be re-elected without any opposition. F. L. Fountain was elected to succeed himself as director and as usual Capt. J. W. Siemens was elected clerk.

The reported robbery of the Midway Wholesale Liquor house, which is now in charge of Sheriff Obenshain, started from the fact that a door was found off its hinges. It has not been discovered that any of the stock is missing, and those familiar with the condition of the door say that it has always been in that position.

J. S. Lane, one of Lake county's prominent Democrats, is in the city on his way home from attending the Democratic State Convention.



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